UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

CENTRA GAS ONTARIO INC.) FE DOCKET NO. 93-27-NG

ORDER GRANTING BLANKET AUTHORIZATION TO EXPORT NATURAL GAS TO CANADA

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 785

MARCH 16, 1993

I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

On March 3, 1993, Centra Gas Ontario Inc. (Centra Ontario) filed an application with the Office of Fossil Energy of the Department of Energy (DOE), under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA), requesting blanket authorization to export up to 16 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas to Canada over a two-year term beginning on the date of first export. Centra Ontario, a Canadian corporation organized under the laws of the Province of Ontario, has its principal place of business in North York, Ontario. Centra Ontario is a gas distribution company and will export the volumes to supply its commercial, industrial, and residential customers. The requested authorization does not involve the construction of new pipeline facilities.

II. FINDING

The application filed by Centra Ontario has been evaluated to determine if the proposed export arrangement meets the public interest requirement of section 3 of the NGA, as amended by section 201 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (Pub. L. 102-486). Under section 3(c), an export of natural gas to a nation with which there is in effect a free trade agreement requiring national treatment for trade in natural gas is deemed to be consistent with the public interest and must be granted without modification or delay. The authorization sought by Centra Ontario to export natural gas to Canada, a nation with which a free trade agreement is in effect, meets the section 3(c) criterion and, therefore, is consistent with the public interest.

ORDER

For reasons set forth above, under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act, it is ordered that:

- A. Centra Gas Ontario Inc. (Centra Ontario) is authorized to export up to 16 Bcf of natural gas to Canada, at any point on the United States/Canada border, over a two-year term beginning on the date of first export.
- B. Within two weeks after deliveries begin, Centra Ontario shall notify the Office of Fuels Programs, Fossil Energy, Room 3F-056, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585, in writing of the date that the first export of natural gas authorized in Ordering Paragraph A above occurred.
- C. With respect to the natural gas exports authorized by this Order, Centra Ontario shall file with the Office of Fuels Programs, within 30 days following each calendar quarter, quarterly reports indicating whether exports of natural gas have been made. If no exports have been made, a report of "no activity" for that calendar quarter must be filed. If exports have occurred, Centra Ontario must report total monthly volumes in Mcf and the average purchase price per MMBtu at the international border. The reports shall also provide the details of each export transaction, including: (1) the name of the United States supplier(s) and transporter(s); (2) the estimated or actual duration of the agreement(s); (3) the point(s) of exit;

- (4) the geographic market(s) served; and (5) whether the sales are being made on an interruptible or firm basis.
- D. The first quarterly report required by Paragraph C of this Order is due not later that April 30, 1993, and should cover the period from the date of this Order until the end of the current calendar quarter, March 31, 1993.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on March 16, 1993.

Anthony J. Como
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Fuels Programs
Office of Fossil Energy